Phoenix-Goodyear Airport (PGA)/Western Avenue Plume Community Advisory Group (CAG) Meeting

Wednesday, April 23, 2003
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Goodyear Community Center
420 E. Loma Linda
Goodyear

DRAFT MINUTES

Members in attendance:
Diane Krone
Susan Kagan
Jim Ewing
Jackie Ewing
Charles Bingham
Thomas Jones

ADEQ Staff in attendance:
Tina Wesoloskie, Community Involvement Coordinator
Lou Minkler, ADEQ Project Manager
Samantha Roberts, ADEQ Project Manager

EPA Staff in attendance:
Andria Benner, EPA Project Manager
Jim Sickles, EPA Project Manager
Viola Cooper, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator

Others in attendance:
Joel Wade
Gary Mineer
Cynthia Parker
Laurie LaPat-Polasko
Jeff Sussman
Todd Struttman
Max Enterline
Al Carroll
Katherine Wisehart
Jerry Ellsworth
Dick Bartholomew
Dorothy Morris
Esmie Avila

PIOU03-304
The following matters were discussed, considered, and decided at the meeting:

1. *Welcome and Introductions* - Tina Wesoloskie, ADEQ Community Involvement Coordinator
   Ms. Wesoloskie opened the meeting. All ADEQ and EPA staff, CAG members and audience members introduced themselves. Ms. Wesoloskie briefly reviewed the agenda for the evening.

2. *Acceptance or Changes to the October 23, 2002 and January 22, 2003 Draft Minutes*
   Susan Kagan made the motion to accept the October 23, 2002 and January 22, 2003 draft minutes as written; Thomas Jones seconded the motion.

3. *Discussion and Voting on CAG Application*
   Gary Mineer was unanimously accepted by all attending CAG members as a member of the Phoenix-Goodyear Airport/Western Avenue CAG. Mr. Mineer will receive his CAG member notebook at the next CAG meeting.

4. *Nomination and Voting on Two Co-Chair Positions*
Ms. Wesoloskie explained that the two co-chair positions were up for nomination and voting. Ms. Wesoloskie reviewed the co-chair responsibilities. Diane Krone was nominated as co-chair for the CAG. Charles Bingham made a motion for Diane Krone to take one co-chair position; Thomas Jones seconded the motion. Charles Bingham was nominated as the second co-chair for the CAG. Thomas Jones made a motion for Charles Bingham to take the second co-chair position; Susan Kagan seconded the motion. Diane Krone and Charles Bingham are the two new co-chairs for the PGA/Western Avenue CAG.

5. *Update on Western Avenue* - Samantha Roberts, ADEQ Project Manager
Ms. Roberts explained that ADEQ conducted groundwater sampling of all wells in March 2003. Only two of the wells exceeded the aquifer water quality standard (AWQS). This includes MW-1 and MW-3. ADEQ is currently finalizing the draft industrial survey report. Due to low concentrations and available data, no additional investigation is necessary. The next phase of the project is to prepare a draft remedial investigation report. Ms. Roberts explained that the treatment system located at PGA South is helping to clean up the Western Avenue WQARF site groundwater contamination.

One audience member asked in general, is the area becoming safer, in terms of danger to public health? Ms. Roberts explained that for Western Avenue, the groundwater concentrations are and have been decreasing over time. Ms. Roberts also explained that no one is currently drinking the contaminated groundwater.

One audience member asked if the decrease in concentrations is due to the treatment process or the longevity of the contamination? Ms. Roberts stated that at the Western Avenue site, there does not appear to be natural attenuation happening.

6. *Correction to Newspaper Article* - Lou Minkler, ADEQ Project Manager
Ms. Minkler explained that a recent *West Valley View* newspaper article printed several errors. ADEQ wanted to make verbal corrections to the article at this meeting. The reporter was mostly misstating facts about the PGA North versus the PGA South sites. At PGA South, there is chromium contamination, not chromium perchlorate contamination. Crane Company is the responsible party at PGA North, not PGA South. At PGA South, the chromium treatment system was dismantled, not a perchlorate treatment system. Additionally, PGA North was discussed several times under the PGA North heading.

At PGA North, the Park Shadows domestic well was not “closed”, only being used for irrigation, not drinking water. The Park Shadows irrigation well was closed/abandoned and is not in use. MW-20 is not a “city well”, as the article indicates. MW-20 was a monitoring well but is now being used as an extraction well (to remove contaminants from Subunit-C). No water is served from this well. EPA did not discover the perchlorate at PGA North. Perchlorate was originally discovered by the American Water Works Service Company with subsequent follow up by ADEQ and later, EPA. Crane

shut down the eastern re-injection wells, not the air stripper as the article indicated. The article also cited the incorrect contact information.

7. *PGA South Site Overview and Update* - Lou Minkler, ADEQ Project Manager
Ms. Minkler showed a map of the PGA South site. Ms. Minkler explained that the contamination is restricted to the airport property. Ms. Minkler showed a photograph of the commercial aircrafts stored on the south end of the airport.

In 1981, the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) first discovered the contamination in the PGA area. In 1983, the EPA added PGA to the National Priorities List (NPL). From 1984 to 1989, remedial investigation showed a separation of the contamination. EPA then divided the site into PGA North and PGA South.

Goodyear Tire and Rubber is the responsible party for PGA South. The main contaminants in the soil and groundwater at PGA South are trichloroethene (TCE) and chromium. The contaminants are in Subunit-A and Subunit-C. The Subunit-A plume is centered under the airport. Subunit-C has a "north" and "south" plume. Ms. Minkler showed a map of PGA South which depicted the Subunit-A and the north and south Subunit-C plumes. Ms. Minkler pointed out the location of the new extraction well.

The ongoing Subunit-A TCE groundwater treatment is air stripping with re-injection of the treated water back into the aquifer. The Subunit-A chromium treatment system is advanced affinity chromatography resin (AACR) which removes the chromium first, and the water is then sent to the air stripper. There is also a air sparging and soil vapor extraction (SVE) system to remediate the last remaining "hot spot" of TCE remediation. Ms. Minkler showed two photographs depicting the air stripping tower and the AACR located adjacent to the dormitory.

The ongoing Subunit-C "southern" and "northern" TCE plumes treatment are granular activated carbon with re-injection of the treated water back into the aquifer. Ms. Minkler showed a photograph depicting the carbon treatment unit at the "southern" Subunit-C plume.

Ms. Minkler provided a review of the soil cleanup at PGA South. Source removal of TCE in the soil by SVE was completed in 1998. Soil contamination removal was also conducted in 1992 and 1993. In January 2003, SVE/air sparging of the hot spot source was completed. Solidification and stabilization of chromium in the soil was completed in 1995. Ms. Minkler showed a photograph of the SVE/air sparging system located adjacent to the PGA Terminal.

Ms. Minkler reviewed the current activities at PGA South. An additional extraction well will be installed for the "northern" Subunit-C plume north of Yuma Road. Groundwater will be sent to the existing "northern" Subunit-C granular activated carbon treatment unit. ADEQ and EPA will evaluate the need for a 5-year review. ADEQ and EPA will also begin to work on a fact sheet for PGA South.

One audience member asked where the City of Goodyear gets their drinking water. Ms. Minkler replied that the City has several deep aquifer production wells. Ms. Minkler explained that most of the contamination is in the upper, Subunit-A portion of the aquifer. This audience member asked if the agencies knew the distance between the city production wells and the contaminated wells. Ms. Minkler replied that the agencies closely monitor the city production wells near the area of contamination. The production wells closest to the PGA North contamination are inspected on a weekly basis. Ms. Benner noted that City of Goodyear (COG) Well #2 is very close to the contamination and EPA is monitoring that well closely. COG Well#11 is actually pumping around the PGA North area. This well has not yet been impacted.

8. *Update on PGA North* - Andria Benner and Jim Sickles, EPA Project Managers

Phase II Source Area Groundwater Investigation

Ms. Benner showed a graphic depicting the location of exploratory boring installed during the Phase II source area groundwater investigation. There are three main transects (A,B, and C) for installing the exploratory borings at the facility. Thirteen borings have been installed to date. The borings are being installed from ground surface to about 352 feet below ground surface. EPA is collecting lithologic and geologic information through these borings. One of the goals is to determine where and at which direction the contamination is migrating through the composition of the formation. EPA is also taking depth-specific water quality samples every 20 feet. Groundwater is being encountered at 80 to 85 feet. For years, it was believed that the contamination was restricted to the upper, Subunit-A portion of the aquifer. However, MW-20 is showing contamination at about 245 to 300 feet and the deep aquifer Park Shadows irrigation well. The data will help to determine the migration pathway of the contamination to these deeper aquifer wells. EPA has taken lead on the Phase II groundwater investigation based on technical disagreements between the agencies and Crane Company.

Perchlorate Treatability Study

Mr. Sickles briefly reviewed the status of the perchlorate treatability study at the City of Goodyear Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). Can Goodyear's WWTP safely and effectively breakdown and treat perchlorate contamination? Testing needs to be completed to demonstrate biodegradation to a safe level at the bench-scale (in the lab) and at the pilot scale (in the field at the WWTP). Currently, the testing was successful at the bench-scale level. The biodegration process is active and working in the plant. The sewer pipeline was also tested by tracer studies. Currently, the water is running from the Unidynamics treatment facility at 280 gallons per minute to the WWTP. Sampling of the final phase of the pilot test will be conducted next week, and the draft report is due in June.

Perimeter Soil Gas Investigation

There are a series of old dry wells behind the main building that were used for disposal of solvents. As part of the ongoing work at the site, EPA has been evaluating the start up of the soil vapor extraction (SVE) system (with new technology). The system was running from 1994 and 1998. In 1998, the system was shut down due to operational problems and community concerns over dioxin emissions. In June 2002, EPA sampled the soil gas

ports around the SVE system and results did not indicate the presence of acetone or methyl ethyl ketones (MEK). Because of this, the SVE system can be turned back on using granular activated carbon instead of the thermal oxidation. The system will be renovated with the carbon unit. As a result of the levels of the soil gas detected in the June sampling, it is evident that soil gas is present and poses a potential for soil gas migration off-site. EPA asked Crane to conduct an investigation along the perimeter of the facility to ensure soil gas had not migrated off the facility property. Soil gas samples will be collected at 10 to 20 below the surface along the boundaries of the site at locations spaced from 100 to 300 feet apart. The samples will be collected at the 100 feet spacing along the north side of the facility to ensure no soil gas is migrating to the health center or the city buildings. EPA received the work plan from Crane on April 18th. Field work is expected to begin in May or June.

One audience member asked if the plume is expanding or stable at this time. Ms. Benner replied that the plume appears almost the same as the last depiction of the plume. Ms. Benner explained that most of the changes will probably appear in the Subunit-C portion of the aquifer.

One CAG member asked if the overall concentrations have been decreasing or increasing. Ms. Benner replied that she will bring some recent monitoring reports to the next meeting. A slug may have moved through the plume at different locations which increased the contaminant concentration in some of the wells.

Ms. Benner described the location of COG #2. There are many options that could be used if COG #2 is contaminated. In 1992/1993, EPA stated in the Administrative Record that if any City of Goodyear production well is contaminated above standards, Crane Company must provide well-head treatment or another alternate means of treatment.

One CAG member asked about the perchlorate treatment at the WTTP and the end use of the treated water. Mr. Sickles explained that the water is extracted, sent through the air strippers at Unidynamics to remove the TCE, sent the WTTP for perchlorate treatment, and into the recharge basin located at the corner of Yuma and Estrella Parkway.

9. *Call to the Public*

Max Enterline, an Arizona State University graduate student, is working on advising the City of Goodyear council on recommendations about the economic development in Goodyear. Mr. Enterline will recommend that Goodyear research other financial means of helping to clean up the contamination in order to restore economic development near the Unidynamics location. Mr. Enterline will present his information to the council at a council meeting to be held on May 12th.

10. *Future Meeting Plans*

The next meeting was scheduled for August 13, 2003. Location to be determined.